

SECRET

EXECUTIVE FILE

SECRET 030200Z APR 79 STAFF

CITE FBIS/OKINAWA 11215

TO: FBIS, FBIS/SEOUL, FBIS/LONDON.

25X1

1. RUSSIAN MONITOR [REDACTED] HAS GIVEN OFFICIAL NOTICE HE INTENDS TO RETIRE IN EARLY AUGUST AT THE END OF HIS PRESENT CONTRACT. THIS GIVES US THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE A FRESH LOOK AT FBIS RUSSIAN-LANGUAGE CAPABILITY AND DISTRIBUTION. 25X1

2. [REDACTED] 15 MAR 79 MEMO (NOT SENT LONDON) MAKES A GOOD CASE FOR ASSIGNING A RUSSIAN MONITOR PERMANENTLY IN SEOUL TO PROVIDE BETTER COVERAGE OF RUSSIAN REGIONALS. WE WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THAT ARRANGEMENT, AND WE FEEL WE COULD PROBABLY GET BY WITH JUST ONE RUSSIAN HERE TO HANDLE THE PEKING RUSSIAN AND MONTSAME CASTS 5 DAYS A WEEK. ADJUSTMENTS COULD BE MADE BETWEEN THE TWO BUREAUS TO COVER FOR LEAVE, DAYS OFF AND OTHER ABSENCES. ON THE OTHER HAND, GIVEN THE USEFULNESS OF HAVING A RUSSIAN ASSIGNED TO SEOUL, IT MIGHT BE MORE PRACTICAL TO SHIFT ALL OF OKINAWA'S RUSSIAN COVERAGE UP THERE PROVIDING WE COULD GET EMBASSY AND MODE III AUTHORIZATION. THIS HOWEVER, WOULD REQUIRE TWO RUSSIAN POSITIONS AT SEOUL. 25X1

3. ANOTHER POSSIBLE SCENARIO: TODTOL/LONDON BUREAU OR SEOUL/BBC SPLIT, ASSUMING RECEPTION OF PEKING RUSSIAN AND MONTSAME IS ADEQUATE IN LONDON.

4. SUGGEST THAT BEFORE WE EXPLORE THE MARKET FOR ANOTHER RUSSIAN, WE CONSIDER OFFERING THE UPCOMING POSITION TO ONE OF THE TWO RUSSIAN MONITORS AT LONDON BUREAU; OR PERHAPS THE BBC WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO HAVING IT OFFERED TO THEIR RUSSIANS.

5. WOULD LIKE HQ. TO CONFIRM [REDACTED] RETIREMENT STATUS. THERE WAS SOME CONFUSION A NUMBER OF YEARS AGO ABOUT HIS DOCUMENTED AGE AND HIS CREDITABLE YEARS OF SERVICE. RVW 3APR99 C9C (3.3) ORG 012693 25X1

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